

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and ~~at least one CIM repository~~ a plurality of CIM repositories, said method comprising:

creating a connection between said object manager and each one of said at least one CIM repository said plurality of CIM repositories, wherein each one of said CIM repositories ~~CIM repository~~ has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected ~~CIM repository~~ one of said CIM repositories and ~~its associated~~ the communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to a repository API associated with said CIM object manager, said protocol indicator identifying the ~~associated~~ communication protocol ~~by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository~~ associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories, over said connection to said selected one of the plurality of CIM repository repositories; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories ~~CIM repository~~ is resident on said host computer.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories ~~CIM repository~~ is resident on a separate computer.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes

calling a JAVA factory class.

Claim 7 - Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium comprising computer code for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host

computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and ~~at least one a plurality of~~ CIM repositories, said computer code of said computer-readable medium effecting the following:

creating a connection between said object manager and each one of said ~~at least one~~ plurality of CIM repositories wherein each one of ~~[[the]]~~ said CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected ~~CIM repository~~ one of said CIM repositories and its ~~associated~~ the communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to the repository API associated with said CIM object manager, said protocol indicator identifying the ~~associated~~ communication protocol ~~by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository~~ associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising computer code for effecting the following:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories, over said connection to said selected one of the plurality of CIM repository repositories; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said ~~associated~~ communication protocol associated with that selected one of the plurality of CIM repositories is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 17 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes
calling a JAVA factory class.